

Response to Amendment

Claims 17-19, 21, 23-27, 29, 31-32 are pending for examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney Roy J. Rosser on May 22, 2006.

Amendment:

To the Application received on March 23, 2006 please modify the following:

Claim 17 (currently amended): A computer based system which enables a party and counterparty to be efficiently matched, comprising:

 a first computer terminal into which the party inputs details of a potential first financial transaction to buy an amount of a first currency using a second currency,

 a second computer terminal into which the counterparty inputs details of a potential second financial transaction to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive the second currency or another currency,

 a computer network connecting the first and second terminals;

characterized in there being:

 (a) a computer program that allocates to each currency a unique identifier such that each possible combination of currencies to be bought and sold by parties and

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counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a total combination identifier that is a single binary number derived from ~~the~~ a unique binary identifier assigned to ~~identifiers of each currency of the combination and wherein a total of combinations~~ T(n, x) is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula:

$$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$$

where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x \leq n$, and wherein C(n, x) represents one of the total combinations given n and x, the system supports up to 20 currencies environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction; and

(b) a computer program arranged to determine, prior to the first and second transactions occurring, a net payment position if either the first and second transactions were to occur only in part and to complete each transaction on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The computer based system as claimed in Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 17 wherein there are several party/counterparty pairs in a connected series of financial transactions such that only by combining all of the connected transactions are all of the parties and counterparties satisfied in whole or part.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A computer based system as claimed in Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 17 wherein the Internet comprises some of the network connecting the first and second terminals.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A method of completing a foreign exchange transaction for a party, comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~the party~~ defining a foreign exchange requirement relating to the party offering buying an amount of a first currency using a second currency ~~the~~ using a web browser;

(b) sending the requirement via the Internet to a server; and

(c) processing that requirement by identifying one or more matching counterparties ~~wishing~~ offering to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive the

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second currency or another currency using (i) a computer program that allocates to each of the different kinds of currencies a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of foreign exchange to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a total combination identifier that is a single binary number derived from the unique binary identifier assigned to each currency identifiers and wherein a total of combinations $T(n, x)$ is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula:

$$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$$

where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x \leq n$, and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents one of the total combinations given n and x; the method supports up to 20 currencies environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction and (ii) a computer program arranged to determine prior to the transaction occurring a net payment position between the party and the or each counterparty if either the first and second transactions were to occur only in part and to subsequently complete the transaction between the party and the or each counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (currently amended): A computer terminal configured as a server and programmed to process a foreign exchange transaction between a party and a counterparty, the transaction relating to different kinds of currencies, in which the server is programmed to (a) allocate to each of the different kinds of currency a unique identifier such that each possible combination of currencies to be bought and sold by parties and counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a total combination identifier that is a single binary number derived from the unique binary identifier assigned to each currency identifiers and wherein a total of combinations $T(n, x)$ is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula:

$$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$$

where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x \leq n$, and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents the number of combinations given n and x; the server

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supports up to 20 currencies environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction and (b) to determine, prior to the transaction occurring, a net payment position between the party and a counterparty if the transaction were to occur only in part and to complete the transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position.

Claim 30 (canceled).

Claim 31 (currently amended): A computer terminal acting as a client, in which the client accepts from a party a foreign exchange requirement and sends that requirement to a server as defined in Claim 30 29.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A method of obtaining foreign exchange comprising the following steps:

(a) defining, by a party offering wishing to buy an amount of a first currency using a second currency, ~~defines~~ a foreign exchange requirement using a web browser;

(b) defining, by a counterparty offering wishing to sell an amount of that first currency and to receive the second currency or another currency, a foreign exchange requirement using a web browser,

(c) sending, by the party, sends the requirement via the Internet to a remote computer which processes or enables the processing of that requirement using a computer program arranged to (i) allocate to each of the different kinds of currencies a unique identifier such that each possible combination of kinds of currency to be bought and sold is uniquely identifiable by a total combination identifier that is a single binary number derived from the a unique binary identifier assigned to each currency identifiers and wherein a total of combinations $T(n, x)$ is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula:

$$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$$

where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x < n$, and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents one of the total combinations given n and x; the method supports up to 20 currencies environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction and (ii) to determine, prior to the foreign exchange occurring a net payment

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position if either the first and second transactions were to occur only in part and subsequently to complete the foreign exchange transaction between the party and the counterparty on the basis of the net payment position; and

(d) the party receives foreign exchange in satisfaction of its requirement.

Amendments to the Specification:

The following is the amendment to the Appendix 1, the examiner has checked that there is no new matter being added.

The paragraph in Appendix 1 that reads:

To distinguish between currency combinations, one aggregates the assignment values of the underlying currencies. Example CAD/GBP/EUR = 10110. No other currency grouping can generate this assignment value. Each grouping has its own unique assignment value.

Should be replaced by the following paragraph:

To distinguish between currency combinations, one aggregates the assignment values of the underlying currencies. Example CAD/GBP/EUR = 10110. No other currency grouping can generate this assignment value. Each grouping has its own unique assignment value that is a single binary number derived from a unique binary identifier assigned to each currency, as clearly seen from table 1.0 and the examples below.

The paragraph in Appendix 1 that reads:

Formula 1.0: Total Combination Calculation

$$T(n,x) = C(n,x) + C(n,x-1) + C(n,x-2) + \dots + C(n,2)$$

where C represents the number of combinations given n, the size of the universe and x, the number of elements in any one combination; x can be less than or equal to n and greater than or equal to 2.

Should be replaced by the following paragraph:

Formula 1.0: Total Combination Calculation

A total of combinations $T(n, x)$ is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula:

$$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$$

where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x \leq n$, and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents one of the total combinations given n and x;

~~where C represents the number of combinations given n, size of the universe and x, the number of elements in any one combination; can be less than or equal to n and greater than or equal to 2.~~

The paragraph in Appendix 1 that reads:

Note that the above equation can readily generate the number of available combinations should BuyFX.com wish to limit the matching procedure to any maximum number of participants. For example, BuyFX.com could have a 20 currency environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction; mathematically the number of possible combinations to reflect these parameters can be described as:

$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + \dots + C(n, 2)$ where n is the number of available currencies and x is the maximum number of participants in any one transaction

Should be replaced by the following paragraph:

Note that the above equation can readily generate the number of available combinations should BuyFX.com wish to limit the matching procedure to any maximum number of participants. For example, BuyFX.com could have a 20-currency environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction; mathematically the number of possible combinations to reflect these parameters can be described as:

$T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + \dots + C(n, 2)$ where n is the number of available currencies and x is the maximum number of participants in any one transaction where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade that in this example is 20, x is a positive integer that in this example is 6 and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents one of the total combinations given n and x ;

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 17-19, 21, 23-27, 29, 31-32 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 17, 27, 29, 32 are allowable because the prior art on record or that encountered in searching for the invention, fails to disclose or suggest the features of instant invention – a foreign currency exchange system having “a computer program that allocates to each currency a unique identifier such that each possible combination of currencies to be bought and sold by parties and counterparties is uniquely identifiable by a total combination identifier that is a single binary number derived from the a unique binary identifier assigned to identifiers of each currency of the combination and wherein a total of

combinations $T(n, x)$ is the number of total combination identifiers and is calculated by the formula: $T(n, x) = C(n, x) + C(n, x-1) + C(n, x-2) + \dots + C(n, 2)$ where n is a positive integer that represents the number of currencies corresponding to a current currency trade, x is a positive integer such that $x \geq 2$ and $x \leq n$, and wherein $C(n, x)$ represents one of the total combinations given n and x , the system supports up to 20 currencies environment with a maximum of 6 participants to a transaction and" with all the limitations in a combination as recited by applicant.

Claims 18-19, 21, 23-26 and 30-31, depend from claims 17 and 29 respectively, therefore, are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Y. Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Susan Y Chen
Examiner
Art Unit 2161

May 19, 2006



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PRIMARY EXAMINER